

**Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge (recalled) John L. Peterson**

400 North Main Street, Butte, MT 59701  
Tel: (406) 782-3354

**John L. Peterson**  
Bankruptcy Judge (recalled)

**United States District Court for the District of Nebraska**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 1152, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7350 Fax: (402) 661-7387  
Internet: www.ned.uscourts.gov

**Number of Judgeships:** 3

**Court Staff**

Clerk of Court **Denise Lucks** ..... (402) 661-7350  
E-mail: denise\_lucks@uscourts.ned.gov Fax: (402) 661-7386  
Education: Nebraska (Omaha) BA, BS, MBA  
Chief Deputy Clerk **M. Therese Bollerup** ..... (402) 661-7350  
E-mail: therese\_bollerup@ned.uscourts.gov Fax: (402) 661-7386  
Education: Nebraska 1981 JD  
Deputy-in-Charge **Patricia S. Merritt** ..... (402) 437-5225  
Federal Bldg., 100 Centennial Mall N., Fax: (402) 437-5651  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
E-mail: pat\_merritt@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: South Dakota BA  
Chief Probation Officer **Jim Rowoldt** ..... (402) 661-7555  
E-mail: jim\_rowoldt@nep.uscourts.gov Fax: (402) 661-7550  
Chief Pretrial Services Officer **Donald A. Ranheim** ..... (402) 661-7560  
E-mail: donald\_ranheim@nept.uscourts.gov Fax: (402) 661-7566  
Education: Augustana (SD) BS  
Librarian **Jeri Kay Hopkins** ..... (402) 661-7590  
Fax: (402) 661-7591  
Library Technician [Part-time] **Laura Headrick** ..... (402) 437-5684  
437 Federal Bldg., 100 Centennial Mall N., Fax: (402) 437-5685  
Lincoln, NE 68508-3803  
E-mail: laura\_headrick@ca8.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Chief Judge Joseph F. Bataillon**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 3259, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7302 Fax: (402) 661-7306  
E-mail: Joseph\_Bataillon@ned.uscourts.gov



**Joseph F. Bataillon**  
Chief Judge

Date of Birth: 1949  
Education: Creighton 1971 BA, 1974 JD  
Began Service: October 1997  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton  
Political Affiliation: Democrat

**Government:** Deputy Public Defender, Office of the Public Defender,  
County of Douglas, Nebraska (1974-1980)

**Legal Practice:** Trial Attorney, Emil F. Sodoro P.C. (1980); Trial Attorney,  
Sodoro, Johnson, Daly, Stave, Cavel & Coffey (1980-1981); Trial  
Attorney, Sodoro, Daly & Sodoro (1981-1997)

**Military Service:** United States Army Reserve (1971-1986)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; Judicial Division,  
American Bar Association; Federal Bar Association; Nebraska State Bar  
Association; Omaha Bar Association

**Chambers of Chief Judge Joseph F. Bataillon continued****Staff**

Law Clerk **Melinda G. Hess** ..... (402) 661-7302  
E-mail: melinda\_hess@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Creighton 1982 JD  
Law Clerk **Moirra White Kennedy** ..... (402) 661-7409  
E-mail: moirra\_kennedy@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Creighton 1983 JD  
Courtroom Deputy **Tracy J. Slagle** ..... (402) 661-7410  
E-mail: tracy\_slagle@ned.uscourts.gov  
Court Reporter **Allan G. Kuhlman** ..... (402) 661-7305  
E-mail: allan\_kuhlman@ned.uscourts.gov  
Secretary **Susan M. Spitznagel** ..... (402) 661-7302  
E-mail: susan\_spitznagel@ned.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of District Judge Richard G. Kopf**

586 Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508  
Tel: (402) 437-5252 Fax: (402) 437-5681  
E-mail: richard\_kopf@ned.uscourts.gov

**Richard G. Kopf**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1946  
Education: Nebraska (Kearney) 1969 BA; Nebraska 1972 JD  
Began Service: May 26, 1992  
Appointed By: President George H.W. Bush

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable Donald R. Ross, United States Court  
of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (1972-1974)

**Judicial:** Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the District of  
Nebraska (1987-1992)

**Legal Practice:** Cook, Kopf & Doyle (1974-1987)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American Bar  
Foundation, American Bar Association; Nebraska Bar Foundation; Nebraska  
State Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Lisa D. DeBuse** ..... (402) 437-5252  
E-mail: Lisa\_DeBuse@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 1981 JD  
Law Clerk **James A. Eske** ..... (402) 437-5252  
E-mail: Jim\_Eske@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 1976 JD  
Law Clerk **Janine E. Rempe** ..... (402) 437-5252  
E-mail: Jan\_Rempe@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 1990 JD  
Secretary **Kris Leininger** ..... (402) 437-5252  
E-mail: kristin\_leininger@ned.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of District Judge Laurie Smith Camp**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 3210, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7323 Fax: (402) 661-7326  
E-mail: laurie\_smith\_camp@ned.uscourts.gov



**Laurie Smith Camp**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1953  
Education: Stanford 1974 BA; Nebraska 1977 JD  
Began Service: November 2, 2001  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush  
Political Affiliation: Republican

**Corporate:** Associate General Counsel, First National Bank and Trust  
Company (1977-1978)

**Chambers of District Judge Laurie Smith Camp continued**

**Government:** General Counsel, Department of Correctional Services, State  
of Nebraska (1980-1991); Chief, Civil Rights Section, Department of  
Justice, State of Nebraska (1991-1995); Chief Deputy Attorney General  
for Criminal Matters, Department of Justice, State of Nebraska  
(1995-2001)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Turner & Boisseau (1978-1979); Solo  
Practitioner (1980)

**Current Memberships:** Nebraska Bar Foundation; Nebraska State Bar  
Association; Omaha Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Mary Buckley** ..... (402) 661-7325  
E-mail: mary\_buckley@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Creighton 1987 JD  
Law Clerk **Patricia O. Kiscoan** ..... (402) 661-7324  
E-mail: patricia\_kiscoan@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Creighton 1987 JD  
Court Reporter **Brenda Fauber** ..... (402) 661-7322  
E-mail: brenda\_fauber@ned.uscourts.gov  
Secretary **Janet L. Bartels** ..... (402) 661-7323  
E-mail: janet\_bartels@ned.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Senior Judge Warren K. Urbom**

507 Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508  
Tel: (402) 437-5231 Fax: (402) 437-5690  
E-mail: Warren\_Urbom@ned.uscourts.gov



**Warren K. Urbom**  
Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1925  
Education: Wesleyan U 1950 AB;  
Michigan 1953 JD  
Began Service: 1970  
Appointed By: President Richard M. Nixon  
Political Affiliation: Republican

**Academic:** Adjunct Instructor of Trial Advocacy, University of Nebraska  
College of Law (1979-1991); Adjunct Instructor of Trial Techniques,  
Emory University (1994-1996)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Baylor, Evnen, Baylor, Urbom & Curtiss

**Military Service:** United States Army (1944-1946)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American College of  
Trial Lawyers; Lincoln Bar Association; Nebraska State Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Marc Pearce** ..... (402) 437-5231  
E-mail: Marc\_Pearce@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 1999 JD  
Administrative Assistant **Ellen Lefler** ..... (402) 437-5231  
E-mail: Ellen\_Lefler@ned.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Senior Judge Lyle E. Strom**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 3190, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7320 Fax: (402) 661-7318

**Lyle E. Strom**  
Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1925  
Education: Creighton 1950 AB, 1953 JD  
Began Service: November 1, 1985  
Appointed By: President Ronald Reagan  
Political Affiliation: Republican

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, Creighton University School of Law

**Chambers of Senior Judge Lyle E. Strom continued**

**Legal Practice:** Fitzgerald, Brown, Leahy, Strom, Schorr & Barmettler  
(1953-1985)

**Military Service:** United States Merchant Marines (1943-1946)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Foundation, American Bar  
Association; American College of Trial Lawyers; American Judicature  
Society; International Academy of Trial Lawyers; Nebraska State Bar  
Association; Omaha Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Jason Grams** ..... (402) 661-7320  
Education: Nebraska 2007 JD  
Law Clerk **Meghan Peterson** ..... (402) 661-7320  
Education: Creighton 2005 JD  
Secretary **Jean Roeder** ..... (402) 661-7320

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge David L. Piester**

566 Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508  
Tel: (402) 437-5235 Fax: (402) 437-5705  
E-mail: piester@ned.uscourts.gov

**David L. Piester**  
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1947  
Education: Nebraska 1969 BS, 1972 JD  
Began Service: January 20, 1981  
Term Expires: January 2013

**Government:** Assistant United States Attorney, District of Nebraska,  
Office of the United States Attorney, United States Department of Justice  
(1979-1981)

**Legal Practice:** Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Society (1972-1973); Legal  
Services Corporation (1975-1977)

**Nonprofit:** Consultant, National Legal Aid & Defender Association  
(1974-1976); Executive Director, Legal Aid of Nebraska (1973-1979)

**Current Memberships:** Federal Magistrate Judges Association; Lincoln  
Bar Association; Nebraska State Bar Association

**Staff**

Career Law Clerk **Cheryl R. Zwart** ..... (402) 437-5235  
E-mail: Cheryl\_Zwart@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 1988 JD  
Judicial Assistant **Carol A. Reitz** ..... (402) 437-5235  
E-mail: Carol\_Reitz@ned.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge Thomas D. Thalken**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 2271, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7343 Fax: (402) 661-7345  
E-mail: thalken@ned.uscourts.gov

**Thomas D. Thalken**  
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1942  
Education: Creighton 1964 BA, 1966 JD  
Began Service: January 4, 1993  
Term Expires: January 4, 2009

**Government:** Assistant United States Attorney, District of Nebraska,  
Office of the United States Attorney, United States Department of Justice  
(1971-1980); First Assistant United States Attorney, District of Nebraska,  
Office of the United States Attorney, United States Department of Justice  
(1981-1993)

**Military Service:** United States Army (1964-1970)

**Current Memberships:** Nebraska State Bar Association; Omaha Bar  
Association

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